

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

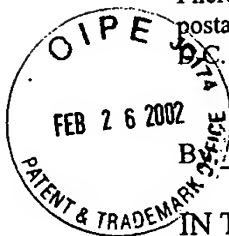
**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.**

#5  
**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Docket No.: WMP-IFT-007

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



By 

Date: February 8, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas Theobald et al.  
Applic. No. : 10/026,241  
Filed : December 21, 2001  
Title : Circuit Configuration for Driving a Semiconductor Switching Element and Method for Same  
Examiner : 2816

REQUEST FOR FILING RECEIPT CORRECTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D. C. 20231

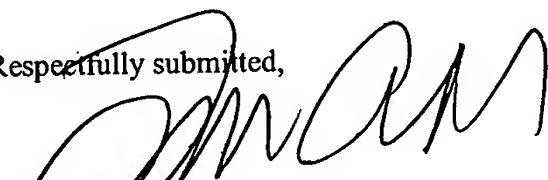
Sir:

Counsel has received the filing receipt for the above-identified application, a copy of which is enclosed.

The information listed under "Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant" should be stricken off the record. A copy of page 1 of the specification is enclosed and it can be seen therefrom that no cross-reference to any related application was made.

Applicants respectfully request that the above information be corrected and that a new filing receipt be issued.

Respectfully submitted,



LAURENCE A. GREENBERG  
REG. NO. 29,308

For Applicants

Date: February 8, 2002

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.

Post Office Box 2480

Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

Tel: (954) 925-1100

Fax: (954) 925-1101

/bb



**BEST AVAILABLE COPY** Page 1 of 2

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO.	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/026,241	12/22/2001	2816	740	WMP-IFT 007	5	10	2

**CONFIRMATION NO. 4477**

**FILING RECEIPT**



\*OC000000007331423\*

LERNER AND GREENBERG, P.A.  
Post Office Box 2480  
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

Date Mailed: 01/18/2002

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

**Applicant(s)**

Thomas Theobald, Munchen, GERMANY;  
Ludwig Leipold, Residence Not Provided, Deceased;  
Brigitte Hiebl-Leipold, Munchen, GERMANY, Legal Representative;  
Stefan-Michael Leipold, Munchen, GERMANY;

**Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant**

THIS APPLICATION IS A CON OF PCT/EP00/05123 06/05/2000

**Foreign Applications**

GERMANY 100 64 123.7 12/21/2000

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 01/18/2002

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Missing Parts

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**RECEIVED JAN 25 2002**

**Title**

Circuit configuration for driving a semiconductor switching element and method for same

**Primary Class**



## BEST AVAILABLE COPY

CIRCUIT CONFIGURATION FOR DRIVING A SEMICONDUCTOR SWITCHING  
ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR SAME

5

Background of the Invention:Field of the Invention:

The invention lies in the field of semiconductor circuits.

The invention relates to a circuit configuration for driving a  
10 semiconductor switching element, in particular, a  
semiconductor switching element that is connected up in a  
device for generating an ignition spark in an automobile.

Such a device for generating an ignition spark with a  
15 semiconductor switching element is illustrated in FIG. 1. The  
device has a transformer TR with a primary coil L1, a power  
transistor T, and a spark plug Z. The power transistor T is  
constructed, in particular, as an Insulated Gate Bipolar  
Transistor (IGBT) or as a so-called power Darlington bipolar  
20 stage and is connected in series with the primary coil L1  
between two supply potentials V+, GND. The spark plug Z is  
connected in series with the secondary coil L2 of the  
transformer TR. Two diodes D1, D2 that are connected in  
series between the collector terminal and the gate terminal of  
25 the power transistor, configured as an IGBT in the example,  
serve for limiting the collector-emitter voltage of the

**LERNER AND GREENBERG, P.A.**

PATENT ATTORNEYS AND ATTORNEYS AT LAW

2445 Hollywood Boulevard  
Hollywood, Florida 33020

Tel: (954) 925-1100

Fax: (954) 925-1101

PATENTUSA®

www.patentusa.com

patents@patentusa.com

Mailing Address:

Post Office Box 2480  
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

New York Office

153 E 57th Street

Suite 15G

New York, NY 10022

Herbert L. Lerner (NY Bar)

Laurence A. Greenberg (FL Bar)

Werner H. Stemer (FL Bar), Senior Attorney

Ralph E. Locher (FL, IL, MO Bars)

Manfred Beck (US & German Pat. Agent)

Mark P. Weichselbaum (TN Bar)

Gregory L. Mayback (FL Bar)

Markus Nolff (FL Bar)

Loren Donald Pearson (FL Bar)

Otto S. Kauder (Reg. Pat. Agent)

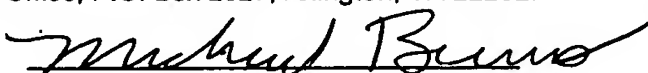
Denise A. Lettau (DC Bar)

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL600692356US

Date of Deposit December 21, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.

Docket No.: WMP-IFT 007

  
MICHAEL BURNS

Date: December 21, 2001

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Sir:

Enclosed herewith are the necessary papers for filing the following application for Letters Patent:

Applicant : THOMAS THEOBALD ET AL.

Title : CIRCUIT CONFIGURATION FOR DRIVING A SEMICONDUCTOR SWITCHING ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR SAME

5 sheets of formal drawings.

The payment in the amount of \$ 740.00 covering the filing fee.

Information Disclosure Statement and 3 References.

This application is being filed without a signed oath or declaration under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.53(f). Applicants await notification of the date by which the oath or declaration and the surcharge are due, pursuant to this rule.

The Patent and Trademark Office is hereby given authority to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1099 of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A. for any fees due or deficiencies of payments made for any purpose during the pendency of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicants

LAG:kf

WERNER H. STEMER

REG. NO. 34,956

Docket No.: WMP-IFT-007

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: 

Date: February 8, 2002

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas Theobald et al.  
Applic. No. : 10/026,241  
Filed : December 21, 2001  
Title : Circuit Configuration for Driving a Semiconductor Switching Element  
and Method for Same  
Art Unit : 2816

LETTER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

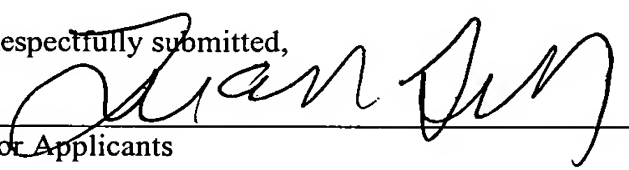
Sir:

The above-mentioned new patent application was filed on December 21, 2001 without a signed oath or declaration, under the provision of 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b).

In accordance with the above-mentioned rule, enclosed herewith is the original signed declaration.

The undersigned hereby states that the application filed in the Patent and Trademark Office is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the declaration. MPEP 601.01(a)(6). The fee required for the late filing of an oath or declaration in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
For Applicants

LAURENCE A. GREENBERG  
REG. NO. 29,308

Date: February 8, 2002

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.  
Post Office Box 2480  
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480  
Tel: (954) 925-1100  
Fax: (954) 925-1101  
bb

04/09/2002 HMOHAMM1 00000002 10026241

01 FC:105

130.00 DP